

Michael Haglund, 1989-90

Michael Haglund was interviewed by Don Marmaduke in July, 2005. Portions of that interview appear below.

Becoming a lawyer

Mike, a Portland native, also spent some time in Eugene and Medford. His father was a forester. Mike graduated from Central Catholic High School in Portland. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from Western Oregon University in Monmouth, with majors in education and journalism. He taught 7th and 8th grade English and Social Studies and coached three sports before enrolling in law school at Boston University, where he received his JD, cum laude, in 1977.

Law practice

In the summer of 1976, Mike clerked for the Lindsay Hart firm in Portland and took an associate position there. He became a partner in the firm in 1982.

His first timber industry client after law school was Multnomah Plywood Cooperative. From then on, his standing as a lawyer representing timber companies gradually expanded.

After 11 years at Lindsay Hart, he and two others left the firm to form his present firm, Haglund Kelley et al.

MBA Young Lawyers Section (YLS)

Mike was one of the founders, and, I think, is fairly regarded as the spearhead of the YLS. He and certain others who took the bar exam in 1977 had discussed what young lawyers' groups were doing elsewhere. They founded two organizations; the Portland Council of Young Lawyers and the Oregon Young Attorneys Association. Mike was the first president of the Portland council.

Mike pursued a number of activities for the organizations: They obtained an ABA grant; they attended an ABA conference relating to young lawyers' organizations; they obtained a grant for a pro bono conference that led to their creation of the Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) in Oregon; they initiated a Law Day Program at shopping centers in the metropolitan area. By 1979-80, they were successful in having the Portland Council become the YLS. Mike was the first YLS president.

Proudest moments

1. Formation of the YLS and its success
2. Success of the VLP
3. Revising the MBA bylaws when president
 1. Increasing the board's size from six to nine members
 2. Adding the immediate past president as a board member ex officio
 3. Making the YLS president a member of the MBA Board
 4. Eliminating the "lock-step" system of MBA officers' progression

Most memorable lawyers

Dennis Lindsay, Mike's mentor
James Burns, US District Court Judge
Owen Panner, US District Court Judge

MBA observations

The organization is still focused on action rather than meetings for meetings' sake: CLE, Pro Bono, Judicial Screening, etc. The organization has been nimble; quick to identify a good idea and let the holder run with it, which he feels is proven by the penetration here as compared with elsewhere.

Law practice changes over the years

More competitive, which is perhaps good for clients.
More a business, which is perhaps bad for the profession.

